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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Sonti Venkata Ramakrishna, et al.

Serial No.: 09/652,753

Group No.: 3517

Filed: August 31, 2000

Examiner.: Kartic Padmanabhan

For: METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF STABLE AND REUSABLE
BIOSENSING GRANULES

Attorney Docket No.: U 012932-5

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICIAL ACTION OF JULY 30, 2002

Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-19.

Please add the following claims:

Claim 20. A process for preparing stable and reusable biosensing granules useful in assessing biodegradability of an effluent, said process comprises the steps of:

- i. culturing active aerobic microbial consortia in a synthetic growth media,
- ii. separating the active aerobic microbial consortia from the synthetic media,

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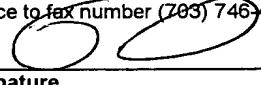
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